

# What to WATCH

**STAR SPORTS SELECT 1**  
English Premier League  
Liverpool v Bournemouth  
Live from 6:30pm  
Arsenal v West Ham  
Live from 9:00pm

Burnley v Tottenham  
Live from 11:30pm  
**STAR SPORTS SELECT 2**  
Bundesliga  
Wolfsburg v Leipzig  
Live from 8:30pm

Borussia M'gladbach v Dortmund  
Live from 11:20pm  
**SONY SIX**  
South Africa v Australia  
Third ODI (D/N)  
Live from 2:00pm

**TEN 2**  
Serie A  
Atalanta v Lazio  
Live from 11:00pm

## DAY'S EVENT

**Bangladesh Premier League**  
Saif Sporting v Sheikh Jamal  
Time: 3:30pm

Venue: Rofique Uddin Bhuiyan Stadium, Mymensingh  
Mohammedan v Bashundhara Kings

Time: 3:30pm  
Venue: Shaheed Dhirendranath Stadium, Cumilla

Abahani v Ctg Abahani  
Time: 6:30pm  
Venue: Bangabandhu National

Stadium, Dhaka  
Sheikh Russel v Muktiyoddha  
Time: 6:30pm

Venue: Sylhet District Stadium



Saint-Etienne's Algerian midfielder Ryad Boudebouz (R) celebrates his winning goal in stoppage time of their French Cup semifinal against Rennes at the Geoffroy Guichard stadium on Thursday. It proved to be a historic goal, taking the club to their first French Cup final in 38 years.

PHOTO: AFP

# Ighalo double denies Rooney

AFP, Derby



Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has challenged Manchester United to compete on three fronts after they moved into the FA Cup quarterfinals with a 3-0 win at Wayne Rooney's Derby on Thursday.

Solskjaer's side were never in danger of a shock fifth round exit against the second tier Rams as Luke Shaw's opener and Odion Ighalo's double booked a quarter-final trip to Norwich.

Rooney, United's record goalscorer, is back in English football after moving to Derby from DC United in January and he was twice denied by Sergio Romero in his first meeting with his old club since 2018.

But United were always on top and extended their unbeaten run in all competitions to nine games ahead of Sunday's derby showdown with Manchester City at Old Trafford.

They remain in the hunt for the FA Cup, the Europa League and still have a chance of qualifying for the Champions League via the Premier League.

United are fifth, three points behind Chelsea, and Solskjaer has urged his players to keep their foot on the gas as they look to turn a troubled season into a memorable finale.

"Today was the highest priority because we're not going to pick and choose games or competitions. We have to go for everything, that's what it is to be at Manchester United," Solskjaer said.

"It's another away draw, we're use to that now. Is it a seventh in a row? We'll have to do it the hard way if want to go all the way. We've got a chance now."

"I'm very pleased with the performance and to go through. You never know, away from home, being the favourites and having City on Sunday how it'll affect their mindset, but it was professional."

"We've found form and defended well, we've had seven clean sheets in those nine games."

United are chasing a record-equaling 13th FA Cup triumph.

They took control at Pride Park after 33 minutes when Shaw scored just his second career goal, his volley bouncing over Kelle Roos via a deflection off Jesse Lingard.

Nigerian striker Ighalo, signed on loan from Shanghai Shenhua in January, got the second goal seven minutes later.

Martyn Waghorn went close for Derby after the break but Ighalo ended the contest when he fired home to complete his double with 20 minutes left.

"He's doing what he says on the tin and what we asked for when we signed him. I'm very happy with him. That type of striker is vital for a team," Solskjaer said of former Watford forward Ighalo.

Former England star Rooney, who left United to rejoin Everton in 2017, almost grabbed a consolation but Romero produced an excellent stop to turn his late free-kick over.

## All-Basque final in Copa del Rey

AFP, MADRID

A goal nine minutes from time by defender Yuri Berchiche took Athletic Bilbao into an all-Basque Copa del Rey final against Real Sociedad on Thursday when they edged Granada on away goals.

Athletic had led 1-0 from the first leg of the semi-final but fellow La Liga side Granada levelled the tie on the night through Carlos Fernandez in the 48th minute with a fine header from a cross by Venezuelan Darwin Machis.

Granada, in their first semi-final since 1969, then took a 2-1 overall lead thanks to a goal from German Sanchez after 76 minutes, again with Machis the provider from a corner.

However, their hopes of making the final were dashed when left-back Berchiche scored with a low drive in the 81st minute after being set up by Mikel Vesga to secure his team a spot in the April 18 finale in Seville.

With 23 titles, Athletic Bilbao are second on the all-time list of Copa del Rey winners behind Barcelona who have triumphed 30 times.

Real Sociedad ended the hopes of second division Mirandes on Wednesday with a 1-0 win which moved them into the final for the first time in 32 years.

## Hodgson signs new Palace deal

AFP, London

Roy Hodgson has extended his contract with Crystal Palace until the end of the 2020/21 season, the Premier League club announced on Friday.

The 72-year-old former England and Liverpool manager, whose previous deal was due to run out this year, said he was delighted to prolong his stay at the London club.

"I am proud of what we have achieved since I was appointed two-and-a-half years ago, and I look forward to us working together for the foreseeable future," he told the club's official website.

# Police hold Brothers

SPORTS REPORTER



Falling giants Brothers Union continued their spate of draws in the Bangladesh Premier League, surrendering a lead to play out a 1-1 draw against promoted Bangladesh Police FC in their home match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

It was the fourth draw in five matches for Brothers, who had also suffered a narrow 3-2 defeat against holders Bashundhara Kings. The draw left Brothers behind in eighth position with four points, one behind Bangladesh Police who moved up to seventh position.

Brothers, who came into the match on the back of a 1-1 draw against Uttar Baridhara, faced stiff

challenge from Police and survived a close call.

Police came close to taking the lead in the fifth minute but Sidney Rivera, being set up by Luka Rotkovic, incredibly drove wide from inside the six-yard box before Brothers made

**Brothers 1 - 1 Police**  
Otabek 8' Bablu 20'

them pay three minutes later when Jonov Otabek found the net with a 25-yard free-kick.

Police started pressing and a powerful header from Joynto Kumar Roy off a corner from Khan Mohammad Tara was saved by Brothers goalkeeper Titumir

Chowdhury, who however could not stop a close-range shot from SM Bablu in the 20th minute.

After resumption, the Gopibagh-based outfit looked better and exposed the opposition defence time and again. However, Police goalkeeper Saiful Islam Khan was solid under between the sticks, making at least three good saves. Brothers were deprived of the lead again in the 57th minute when Otabek saw his powerful shot from the right flank come off the crossbar.

Police, too, had a good opportunity in the dying minutes, but Antonio Laskov floated his shot over the crosspiece before Brothers saw their last effort thwarted by Saiful, who stopped a powerful shot from Otabek in his second effort.

# Ronaldinho will not face prosecution

AFP, Asuncion

Former Brazilian football star Ronaldinho and his brother were "deceived" and will not face prosecution for traveling to Paraguay on false documents, officials said Thursday.

Prosecutor Federico Delfino said he had recommended not pursuing Ronaldinho and his brother Roberto de Assis Moreira.

"But on the condition of admitting committing the crime of which they are accused, in this case the use of false documents," he said.

Ronaldinho's lawyer had earlier denied that he and his brother had used fake passports to enter Paraguay.

"We have proceeded to charge several people," Delfino told the press.

"Ronaldinho and his brother Roberto contributed relevant information to the investigation" and were then removed from the case.

The brothers were acting in "good faith" in receiving the falsified Paraguayan documents, he said.

"The information that they provided is very useful in disrupting a criminal organization dedicated to the production of false documents," he said.

Brazilian authorities withdrew

Ronaldinho's passport in November 2018 after he failed to pay a \$2.5 million fine for environmental damage incurred during the building of a property in Porto Alegre, in southern Brazil.

The World Cup winner and his brother were questioned for more than seven hours by the public prosecutor in Asuncion.

Ronaldinho had been invited to the Paraguayan capital by a foundation for needy children, and to promote his new book.

The 39-year-old and his brother went to the prosecutor's office in the morning alongside Paraguayan lawyer Adolfo Marin.

"They decided voluntarily to stay and submit themselves to the public prosecutor's investigations," said Marin.

According to the inspector leading the investigation Gilberto Fleitas, Ronaldinho was given a fake passport by Brazilian businessman Wilmondos Sousa Lira, who has been arrested.

Marin said Ronaldinho had told the public prosecutor that the documents in question were given to him a month ago in Brazil.

Former two-time world player of the year Ronaldinho and his brother were detained on Wednesday at their hotel.

Their fake documents were detected upon arrival at the Asuncion international airport, according to Delfino.

The former Barcelona, AC Milan and Paris Saint-Germain forward and his brother traveled using "doctored Paraguayan passports and fake identity cards," Delfino said.

However, Marin insisted that Ronaldinho had travelled with his own documents and was not subject to travel restrictions.

Marin added that the two Brazilians faced no restrictions on their movements in Asuncion.

Interior minister Euclides Acevedo earlier said Ronaldinho's celebrity would not spare him.

"As an authority, we couldn't ignore this irregularity," he said, adding that those who allowed Ronaldinho into the country would also be investigated.



Odion Ighalo is the toast of his teammates as his two-goal haul powered Manchester United to a 3-0 win in the FA Cup fifth round against Derby County at Pride Park Stadium in Derby on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP

## SHORT CORNER

### ISSF World Cup postponed due to coronavirus

The ISSF World Cup in New Delhi was postponed yesterday following the host nation's proposal to the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) to defer the tournament due to the outbreak of the coronavirus.

The World Cup was scheduled to be held from March 15 and six Bangladeshi shooters -- Abdullah Hel Baki, Shakil Ahmed, Risalatul Islam, Anwar Hossain, Syeda

held from May 5 while the shotgun competitions will take place from June 2.

--SPORTS REPORTER

### Swarnavo wins rapid school chess

Swarnavo Choudhury of Faizur Rahman Institute became champion with six points in seven games in the Walton Air Conditioner FIDE Rapid School Chess tournament, which was held at the Bangladesh Chess Federation hall room yesterday.

Sadnan Hasan Dihan of

### Anwara SC notch maiden win

Begum Anwara SC notched up their maiden victory in Tricotex Women's Football League with a 1-0 win over Cumilla United at the Bishreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday.

Swapna struck the decisive goal in the 25th minute to help Anwara SC to their first win in three matches while Cumilla United remained winless.

--SPORTS REPORTER

### Hazard undergoes 'successful' surgery

Real Madrid star and Belgian international Eden Hazard has undergone successful surgery on his broken right foot, the Spanish La Liga leaders said Thursday.

"Eden Hazard has successfully undergone surgery today in Dallas on a fracture in the fibula of his right foot," Real said in a statement.

"The operation was supervised by Real Madrid Medical Services. Hazard will now remain under observation until he gets the all clear to being his rehabilitation process."

Hazard came off during Madrid's defeat by Levante on February 23 after making only his second start following almost three months out with a fracture in the same foot.

He joined Madrid for 100 million euros from Chelsea last summer but has endured a nightmare first year in Spain.

He sustained a high injury in training the day before the start of the season and after coming back in September, took time to regain form and fitness.

Hazard appeared to be finding his rhythm only to suffer his first fracture in November, before his latest set-back. He has made only 15 appearances for his club this season, scoring one goal.

--AFP



Swarnavo Choudhury (L) receives the winner's prize at the end of Walton Air Conditioner FIDE Rapid School Chess tournament at the Bangladesh Chess Federation hall room yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

Atkia Hasan and Jakia Sultana -- were supposed to participate in the meet. The event had lost its merit after the ISSF announced that the tournament would not have any world ranking points due to the Indian government's new guidelines for issuing visas to foreigners intending to come to India following the outbreak of the coronavirus.

The World Cup is now likely to be held in two phases. The rifles and pistol competitions will be

Narayanganj Ideal School became runner-up and CM Manon Reja Neer of Philosophia School of Narayanganj became third with same number of points.

F M labql Bin Anower, executive director and head of Sports and Welfare Department of Walton, inaugurated the event and later distributed prizes.

A total 41 school students participated in the seven-round Swiss League format event.

--SPORTS REPORTER